

Alma Otter

A newsletter for alumni and friends of California State University, Monterey Bay

Renee Cannon 'digs' her career

A community college class and a chance meeting with an interested and dedicated professor changed Renee Cannon's life.

Cannon ('00 SBS) works at the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture/Laboratory of Anthropology in Santa Fe, N.M. It's her job — and her passion.

But Santa Fe is a long way — geographically and intellectually — from where her career began.

After dropping out of college, Renee took a job with American Medical Response (AMR), the largest private ambulance company in the nation. Her job responsibilities increased until she was in charge of maintaining staffing levels on all paramedic emergency ambulance units for Santa Clara County.



Renee in the "digs" at Mission San Marcos in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

While her career with AMR was a success by any measure, she yearned to finish the college education she had started 20 years earlier.

"I decided to enroll in an introductory anthropology class at Gavilan College (in Gilroy)," she says.

When she expressed a fascination with the subject, her instructor suggested she visit Mission San Juan Bautista, where Dr. Ruben Mendoza and his students from CSUMB were excavating.

"I met with Dr. Mendoza and was impressed that he was willing to spend time with me, explaining his work at the mission." After spending many afternoons digging for artifacts with Dr. Mendoza's students, she was convinced that her future was in archaeology.

(continued on page 4)

Rankings and Recognitions

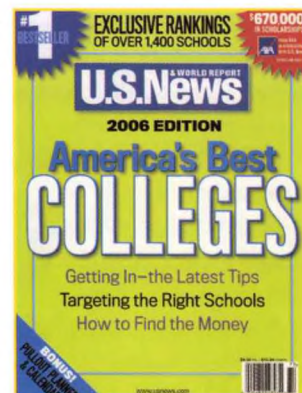
During 2005, CSUMB received national recognition:

■ A survey conducted by Intel Corp., in conjunction with the Center for Digital Education, ranks CSUMB among the top wireless campuses in the nation. The survey, which was published in *U.S. News & World Report*, ranks the university 12th in the country. Intel sponsored the survey to identify the U.S. colleges and universities with the greatest wireless Internet access.

CSUMB is in the forefront of exploring innovative ways to use this new technology through the Wireless Education and Technology Center based on campus. "We have 20 projects with 28 faculty that will leave you flabbergasted," says Arlene Krebs, director of the wireless center.

■ CSUMB's service learning program has been recognized by the editors of *U.S. News & World Report* in the magazine's 2006 edition of *America's Best Colleges*. The magazine names "programs to look for," which it defines as "outstanding examples of academic programs that are believed to lead to student success." Service learning is a component of the university's academic program and is integrated into both the general education requirements and the graduation requirements of each major. Hundreds of community organizations partner with the university to provide service learning opportunities for students. Among them are the Boys and Girls Club, American Red Cross, California Conservation Corps, California State Parks, Carmel Mission and dozens of public schools.

■ CSUMB is one of 20 public and private colleges in the country cited as models for promoting student success. The university is featured in the book *Student Success in College: Creating Conditions that Matter*, released by the American Association for Higher Education. CSUMB was recognized for having "a strong, cohesive sense of purpose" deriving from its Vision Statement. "An unusually high level of energy of the faculty, administration and staff is devoted to experimenting with ways to implement the Vision." The book calls CSUMB "an educationally engaging university" and adds that it "unequivocally honors diversity." ♦



Getting involved

With another calendar year behind us, the Alumni Association is gearing up for the second half of the academic year. In a few months, we'll be seeing the Class of 2006 at commencement!



Greg Riley

The association is currently seeking new board members. The nominating committee will soon put together a slate of new board members and new officers for the 2006-2007 academic year. A board member serves for two years, attending board meetings bi-monthly and joining at least one committee, such as finance or events.

Not only is this an excellent resumé builder, but networking opportunities often present themselves. Moreover, serving on the board is a great way to give back to your alma mater and represent your fellow alums. If you're interested in this opportunity, or have questions, please contact the Alumni Relations office at 831-582-GRAD (4723) or alumni@csumb.edu.

By now, you should have received a postcard and accompanying magnet with information about the alumni book drive. So far, 62 books have been donated by alumni. Books, as inexpensive as \$10, can be donated via amazon.com. Further information regarding the book drive can be found on page 4 of this newsletter or on the www.csumbalumni.org website.

The search is on for the next CSUMB president. Along with community members, Associated Students and CSU trustees, alumni are represented on the presidential search committee by Farah Hussain ('03 IS), our Alumni Association secretary and board member. The committee hopes to see the next campus president selected by April. If you have any concerns or questions regarding the process, please contact Farah on FirstClass at farah_hussain@csumb.edu.

I hope the new year brings you and yours much health, happiness and prosperity. As always, if there's anything the Alumni Association can do for you, please feel free to contact me at gregory_riley@csumb.edu.

All my best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Greg Riley".

Greg Riley '02 TMAC
President, CSUMB Alumni Association

Alumni Association awards student scholarships

In the past year, the Alumni Association board has voted to increase the number of scholarships awarded by 50 percent. At a board meeting on Nov. 8, the board approved a motion to designate 10 percent of all membership dues for the Alumni Scholarship Fund.

"The board has always held a position that scholarships are an essential component of the association," says Greg Riley, association president. "This move to designate a percentage of dues for scholarships is a path in the right direction to ensure monies are set aside to fund this important endeavor in the years to come."

As a result of tuition and cost-of-living increases, scholarships play a vital role in allowing needy students to obtain a college education. This year's recipients of an Alumni Vision Scholarship were Yvette Cervantes, Arwen Dotson, Jose Hernandez, Lisa Kline, Anneliese Neitling and Joseph Taylor.

"This scholarship means more to me than its monetary value. It's allowed me to feel more confident about myself and what I want to achieve," Arwen says.

Yvette echoes those sentiments, adding that "the scholarship is something my family, my son and I are very proud of. It's evidence that I can accomplish anything I set my mind to." The



The Alumni Vision Scholarship recipients include Arwen Dotson (l) and Yvette Cervantes.

association awards scholarships to new students from the Tri-County area, transfers and/or continuing students, and master's or credential students. Awards are made based on financial need, a minimum GPA of 2.75, and student involvement in the community.

The association also raises scholarship funds through the annual *Have a Heart for Students Dinner and Auction*. See page 10 for details about that event. ♦

Take action — join the alumni board!

Would you like to have a say about what events the Alumni Association offers? Develop scholarship opportunities? Explore ways to give back to CSUMB? Reconnect with other alums? Serve on an event, finance, membership or scholarship committee?

If so, the association's board of directors invites you to apply for the board and its various committees. As a board or committee member, you'll have the opportunity to influence the direction of the Alumni Association.

A board member term is a two-year commitment. If you're not able to commit to that time frame, please consider joining one of the association's committees. If interested in either of these opportunities to get involved, send an e-mail to alumni@csumb.edu or call 831-582-GRAD (4723). ♦

It's been a fast track for Amanda Quintero

Amanda Quintero has been on a career fast track since graduating as a Global Studies major in 2000. She went on to earn a master's in public policy and administration from CSU Long Beach. She also found time to study Mexican culture and Spanish at the Center for Bilingual & Multicultural Studies in Cuernavaca, Mexico. And she has plans to enroll in a doctoral program in 2007.

Amanda is the director for research and sponsored programs at CSU Channel Islands (CSUCI).

"I oversee the development and submission of grant proposals and contracts on behalf of the university," she says. "Our office is also responsible for the oversight of all faculty, staff and student research that involves human subjects."

Her office submitted 34 grant proposals in the year and a half it's been in operation at the new campus — generating \$2.5 million in revenue.

Amanda is also interim director for the Office of Service Learning and Civic Engagement. In this role, she works with faculty, students and community agencies to integrate real-world experiences with classroom learning. She credits CSUMB and its service learning leadership program for her success.

"Service learning and civic involvement play an important role at CSUCI in shaping an 'engaged university' in the communities of Ventura County," she says. As for handling two jobs: "It's difficult to manage two start-up offices at the same time, but it's not impossible. I have an amazing family, an extraordinary mentor and supervisor, and an excellent staff. The combination of all three truly allows me the opportunity to do both jobs."

"If I can bridge the community with higher education through grant-funded projects and service learning, then I truly feel that I'm giving back to others the opportunities that were afforded me."

— Amanda Quintero

community with higher education through grant-funded projects and service learning, then I truly feel that I'm giving back to others the opportunities that were afforded me."

Before joining CSUCI, Amanda worked in the Office of the

Chancellor as coordinator of AmeriCorps programs for the entire CSU system.

"I was recruited by the CSU Chancellor's Office of Community Service Learning as a result of being part of the Executive Fellowship Program," she says. "As an executive fellow



Amanda Quintero in her office at CSUCI.

with the Capital Fellows Program, I was placed with the former Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism, now the California Service Corps, which administers AmeriCorps programs in California. I was able to apply my knowledge of AmeriCorps program administration to the systemwide administration of AmeriCorps in the CSU."

Amanda's career advice for alums: "I would say that networking skills are very important. Use your educational experience as an opportunity to get out into the community as much as possible, either through service learning or internships. It really does help build your resumé. Seeking out opportunities, like national service, international or local leadership programs, and fellowships, are great ways to transition into the workforce." ♦

Send us your e-mail address!

Within the next few months, the Alumni Association will be creating a monthly alumni e-newsletter to keep CSUMB grads informed about announcements, upcoming events and activities. To start a free subscription to the newsletter, send your e-mail address to alumni@csumb.edu.

Renee Cannon's career leads to archaeology (continued from page 1)

After graduating from Gavilan, she briefly attended San José State University but decided that CSUMB would be a better fit for her.

"Even though CSUMB was a new university — with growing pains — it was the only one in the area that offered a semester-long, hands-on archaeology program." She graduated in 2000.

Next stop: graduate school at CSU-East Bay, where she earned a master's degree in the spring of 2005.

While in graduate school, she continued to work during the summers at San Marcos Pueblo in New Mexico through the American Museum of Natural History. She started this work while an undergraduate. Her interest in the pueblo had been piqued after she and her husband purchased property nearby.

After graduation, they sold their house in Hollister and built their dream home in Santa Fe. Renee volunteered at the Museum of Indian Arts & Culture, work that led to her full-time position as assistant collections manager for the individually catalogued collections at the museum. She also volunteered with the National Parks Service, doing archaeological site assessments.

Renee works with Antonio Chavarria, a student of Dr. Mendoza when the professor taught at the University of Colorado. Chavarria is the museum's curator of ethnology.

"Dr. Mendoza mentioned Tony several times as an example of what a student could achieve following graduation," she says.

Renee believes her greatest accomplishment was going back to school to earn bachelor's and master's degrees. She's quick to credit

the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department — namely, professors George Baldwin, Manuel Carlos, Sandra Pacheco and Ruben Mendoza — with encouraging her to attend graduate school.

And she has a special fondness for her experience at CSUMB.

"An education at CSUMB promotes self-esteem, team building and community awareness in all of its students. I can't say enough about how proud I am to have



Renee Cannon presents Glenn Farris, senior state archaeologist with the California Parks Department, a bound copy of her master's thesis. Farris was highly supportive of Renee's thesis research work.

been a student at this campus.

"And the networking connections I made armed me with confidence to pursue work in archaeology and museums. Passion for archaeology, love of the Southwest, perseverance, patience and a few lucky breaks got me where I am today."

She sums up her second career this way: "It's a great feeling to get up in the morning and go to work doing something you love." ♦

Alumni Book Drive makes news

The Alumni Book Drive, which kicked off in October with a postcard and magnet sent to all alumni, is grabbing media attention. An article featuring the drive appeared on the front page of *The Salinas Californian*.

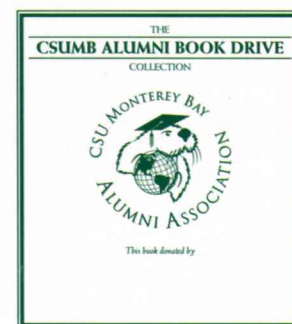
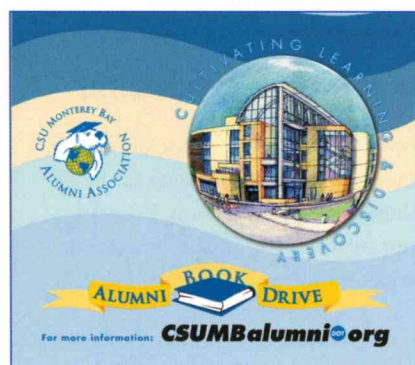
Over \$1,000 was donated for books during the first three months of the campaign. Joel Kaufman ('98 TMAC) purchased books worth several hundred dollars.

"As a pioneer student here, I remember the library having only a thousand books or so," Joel recalls. "Now that I

have the opportunity to give back, I want to help the library get as many books as possible."

Community members and staff have also donated books in honor of their student assistants, colleagues or family members. All donated books will have a bookplate inserted, which can be named for someone else. Simply make the notation in the gift note section of your order at Amazon.

If you haven't already done so, check out [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) and type in CSUMB Library' under *Find a Wish List*. For more information, go to the [csumbalumni.org](https://www.csumbalumni.org) website. ♦



David Kashevaroff's passion for filmmaking

Through a solid education and a determination to succeed, David Kashevaroff ('01 TAT) has shaped his career the way he intended. With relentless drive and a passion for film editing, he has succeeded in a career known for its long hours and intense competition.



David Kashevaroff finds that editing films requires long hours — but offers a tremendous sense of accomplishment.

Radio had been a longtime interest but, after taking a radio broadcasting class at CSUMB, David decided to switch his major to Teledramatic Arts & Technology (TAT).

"The radio class led me to the TAT building and everything that went on there," he says. "I quickly became interested in media creation. I found my interests peaked in the editing classes offered. It opened up the world of digital editing. I took other classes and made films, but editing was where my passion was. I wanted to be involved in art for a living, and this was my calling."

Editing is the process of condensing a film until the filmmaker is left with only the elements needed to tell the story. When a film is shot, there are many more hours of footage than the audience sees. The editor sifts through the footage, constructs a story by analyzing the performances, mood and camera technique. Editing requires both creativity and skill.

The editing process is said to be the final stage of rewriting. The writer's script guides the director, actors, producer, cinematographer, costume designer, production designer and others, but the editor is one of the last stops. There are thousands of directions a story can go, once it's shot. A talented editor ensures that only the best story finds its way to the audience.

"My experiences in TAT were unique. The classes were small, there was lots of new equipment to use, and plenty of opportunity to be creative. I wanted to be a jack-of-all-trades. An understanding of all aspects of production helps your interpretation of whatever aspect you specialize in. That's what I believe put me ahead of the pack. I had hands-on experience with a lot of tools that are still standard in the film industry today."

After graduation, David began working for NBC in graphic arts and animation. Within a year, he was accepted into the master's program for film editing at the American Film Institute (AFI) in Los Angeles.

"When I began my schooling at AFI, there were only two out of 14 editors who knew the AVID editing system inside and out. I was amazed at how many people entering a master's program for editing knew so little about the technology. I owe my knowledge of it to TAT. There are many more applicable lessons learned at TAT that apply to everyday work in the film industry, such as organization, understanding work flow, and problem-solving."

David's primary interest lies in feature films and documentaries. He also finds them the most difficult to work on.

"While I was finishing up my M.F.A. in editing, I was working as an assistant editor on a feature documentary being cut over at Paramount Pictures. Following graduation, I was able to devote more time to that film. I was brought in to help edit the film in the final months of postproduction." David worked on the project with an Academy Award-winning editor, which helped broaden his creativity and knowledge of editing.

The *Monster and the Peanut* was one of two AFI thesis films David edited. It won an Emmy Award for best short drama and has played at such festivals as Cannes International, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Nashville. Another short film, titled *Raveling*, also played at Cannes last year.

One Man's War was a short film about the Tulsa race riots of the early 1900s. It has played at the Harlem Film Festival, the San Francisco Black Film Festival and has been licensed by Showtime and PBS.

David says that breaking into the film industry is "difficult and takes a lot of patience, long hours, low pay and good luck. It's highly competitive in every aspect and takes a lot of resolve and commitment."

His advice for fellow alums: "You have to be able to see past what you may be doing at the moment, and look forward to where you want to end up." As for editing, "a sense of humor is necessary, and don't take anything personally. It's a rough business filled with egos. As an editor, don't let yours get in the way." ♦

"You have to be able to see past what you may be doing at the moment, and look forward to where you want to end up."

— David Kashevaroff

Your phone is about to ring



As a CSUMB alum, your phone is about to ring! We don't really expect you to sit by the phone and wait, but we do want you to know that CSUMB will be calling you soon to discuss the Vision Scholarship Fund. We hope you'll listen to what the caller has to say, and make a gift to support CSUMB.

Alumni like you help make a difference!

Otter baseball and softball take the field

"Batter up!"

Those words will be heard this spring as softball and baseball hit the CSUMB campus.



Andrea Kenney is the head softball coach. She comes to CSUMB from Claremont-Mudd-Scripps College, where she coached for the last five years. Also joining CSUMB is pitching coach Angela Slaugh and assistant coach Shellie Broyles, both former Division II All-Americans.

"We will be competitive in the first year," says Kenney. "Being a first-year team is a strong recruiting tool, and the team can build the program together. We've had some returning students turn out, and we're drawing more students in." The local area has "some very competitive club teams with great players that I'm trying to recruit to CSUMB. I want the local talent to stay local."

Among the local players who have committed to the program are Ashley Trotter, a catcher from Everett Alvarez High who played for the Salinas Wildcats, and Brittany Armbruster,

an infielder from Salinas High who played for the Salinas Storm. Both players received scholarship offers from other universities, but chose to attend CSUMB because of the program and because it's close to home.



The Otter softball team has been successful in recruiting local players.

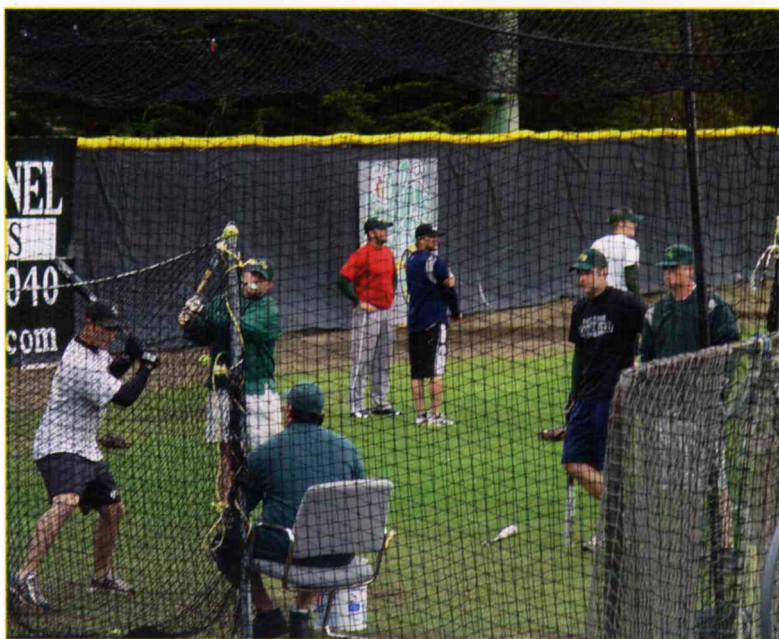
The Otters open the season on Feb. 4 at home to CSU-East Bay. For location of home games, visit the CSUMB athletics department website.

The softball squad won't be the only new team taking the field this spring. CSUMB is also welcoming baseball to its sports lineup.

Rich Aldrete, a former professional baseball player, is the head coach. His Aldrete Baseball Academy (ABA) has been headquartered on campus since 1997.

"This is like a dream come true for me," Aldrete says. "I've been waiting a long time for this job. Having grown up in the area, I have family and friends here and remaining close to them was an important factor for me. We eat, sleep and breathe baseball here in Monterey County."

The baseball team has brought in players from around the state, including Garrett Lyons, a highly sought-after player from



This season's baseball games are being held at the ABA field until the Otter fields are ready next year.

San Diego, who Aldrete expects will help build a strong program. He's also recruiting local players.

"Being in the California Collegiate Athletic Association (CCAA) is going to be an exciting challenge. The CCAA is the toughest Division II baseball conference in the country and that will help us. The high schools and community colleges in the surrounding area will serve as a good talent pool."

The Otters held an exhibition in November as a fundraiser for the program and will open the season at home Feb. 3 against Sonoma State. Home games will be played at the ABA field located on Fourth Avenue, near Eighth Street, until the Otter fields are ready for play next year. The new fields will be located near Freeman Stadium and the Otter Soccer Complex.

For Otter softball and baseball schedules, visit the CSUMB.EDU/sports website.

The addition of baseball and softball brings the number of varsity sports to 12. ♦

The World Theater presents . . .



RJ Maria

ODC San Francisco

ODC San Francisco Feb. 23, 7:30 P.M.

Established 35 years ago, ODC San Francisco is one of the Bay Area's most dynamic companies. Under the direction of founder and choreographer Brenda Way, the company consistently brings audiences to their feet with its virtuoso technique, athleticism and deeply moving choreography. The evening will feature *On A Train Heading South*, a new dance co-commissioned by the World Theater. Inspired by the global warming crisis, the work explores human complacency and mass distraction in the face of natural disaster. Tickets are \$22 for Alumni Association members; \$25 general public.

Nrityagram Dance Ensemble March 9, 7:30 P.M.

Dressed in ornate costumes of flowing, colorful fabrics and silver jewelry, the Nrityagram Dance Ensemble uses an exacting and elaborate vocabulary of movement to tell stories based on ancient myths, folk tales and love ballads. Direct from the outskirts of Bangalore in southern India, this world-renowned ensemble transports viewers to enchanted worlds of magic and spirituality with the sensuous flow of Odissi, the oldest of India's seven classical dance forms. "One of the most luminous dance events of the year!" — *The New York Times*. Tickets are \$22 for Alumni Association members; \$25 general public.

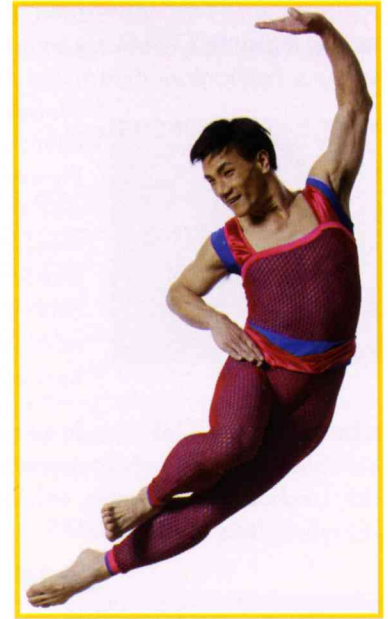


Nrityagram Dance Ensemble

Nrityagram Dance Ensemble

Paul Taylor Dance Company April 7, 7:30 P.M.

A dominant force in modern dance for over five decades, Taylor's imaginative choreography, rare sense of beauty and superb musicality — not to mention the brilliance of his dancers — are beyond compare. Join us for this return engagement, which includes the Monterey Bay premiere of a new dance co-commissioned by the World Theater. "One of the most exciting, innovative, and delightful dance companies in the entire world." — *The New York Times*. Tickets are \$27 for Alumni Association members; \$30 general public.



Lois Grenfield

Paul Taylor Dance Company

Quetzal April 26, 7:30 P.M.

Quetzal embodies the soul and the struggle at the heart of the Mexican-American legacy. One of the leading multi-ethnic bands to stem from the Chicano music movement, Quetzal's sound



Mike Quatin

Quetzal

blends Mexican indigenous music with rock, folk and Afro-Caribbean influences. The band has garnered rave reviews for their high-energy live shows, performing with such artists as Los Lobos, Taj Mahal, Los Van Van, Mark Anthony and ¡Cubanismo!. Tickets are \$22 for Alumni Association members; \$25 general public.

For tickets or further information, call the World Theater box office at 831-582-4580 or purchase tickets online at the CSUMB.EDU/worldtheater website. For disability-related accommodations, please contact the World Theater box office no later than 10 business days prior to the event you wish to attend. All dates, programs and artists are subject to change. ♦

Otter Fodder

2005

Francine Aguirre (TMAC) is a graphic designer in CSUMB's Marketing & Publications department. Working with First Night Monterey, she created the printed materials for the 2005 event. Francine also volunteers at animal shelters and has a special fondness for rabbits. She works with The Rabbit Haven, a nonprofit in Santa Cruz, to rescue and place rabbits in safe homes. Francine lives in Salinas.



Elizabeth Ortiz (CHHS) is an admissions adviser for Heald College. She also helps with community service events that her sorority, Lambda Sigma Gamma, either participates in or sponsors. Elizabeth lives in Marina.

2004

Danielle Painter (BUS) is the operational manager for Desert Villa Dental, a practice that works with state-funded programs for economically disadvantaged patients and provides dental health information at community events. She has also earned a real estate license in Arizona and is going to study for her CPA license. Danielle lives near Green Valley, Arizona.



Jason La Chance (TAT) is a programmer and morning show host for a radio station owned by Mapleton Communications. "The station and morning show that I run have received No. 1 ratings since I became a part of the company," he says. Jason lives in Merced.

Kate Murphy (CHHS) works for Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases (WORLD). She provides assistance to HIV-positive women who have no other care. "I am still involved with Empower, the CSUMB club I co-founded in my senior year. We're working on a grant which funds Capstones to address ending violence against women and girls." Kate lives in Oakland.



Denise Huey (LS) works as a math tutor in ASAP and an instructional student assistant for several remedial math courses at CSUMB. She's in the process of obtaining a single subject teaching credential at the university. Student-teaching at King Middle School last year stands out as a major accomplishment. "These kids were a handful," she says. "I had to learn a lot and adjust



my personal goals and aspirations about why I like teaching, and why I should teach these kids. Having been placed in a more diverse school can teach you so many things that aspiring teachers can't learn from textbooks." Denise lives in Marina.

Fern (Hector-Batson) Joy (HCOM) owns a small publishing business with her husband and teaches at Salinas Adult School. As a teacher, she plans "to help others realize their dreams, as I am in the process of doing." Fern lives in Salinas.



2003

Katie Greenberg-Trujillo (SBS) is executive director for South County Regional Health Partners, Inc. in King City. She oversees the operation of a mobile health clinic that serves families in small, underrepresented communities. She is also attending San José State to earn an M.A. and a credential in counseling education. Katie is married and has two children, Anyssa (6) and Angel (3). She lives in Greenfield.

Julio Cardona (HCOM) is the director of graduate recruitment and retention for the Division of Graduate Studies at UC Santa Cruz. Julio lives in Santa Cruz.

2002

Jeff Woolery (VPA) is district executive of the Ventana District for the Boy Scouts of America. "CSUMB helped me get a degree that got me thinking toward self-worth," he says. "If you can't look inside yourself and see what you are feeling, then how can you lend a hand to others and guide them without creating conflict?" Jeff lives in Salinas.



Aimee Sanchez (LS) is an outreach specialist for the Educational Talent Search program at CSUMB. She has also earned a police officer standards and training certificate and an A.S. in administration of justice. "Working with high-risk youth and low income families and becoming more aware of the needs of my community" is a fulfilling experience for her. Aimee lives in Castroville.



2001

Jennifer Saito (LS) is a fourth-grade teacher at Highland Elementary School in Seaside. At the end of this school year, she will have completed her fourth year of the "Governor's Teaching Fellowship" requirement for teaching in a low-performing school. She says her major accomplishment to date is "making it through my first three years as a teacher and not having a complete nervous breakdown." Jennifer lives in Marina with her boyfriend, Jason.

RuthAnn McGarry (VPA) is pursuing an M.A. in history and is a member of the Phi Beta Delta Honor Society. She has lived in France on three occasions. Fond of the French culture, her desire is to coordinate a university-level study-abroad program in France. RuthAnn lives in Tustin.



Mack Smith (LS) is a special education teacher with the Monterey County Office of Education. He expected to earn an M.A. in special education in December 2005. Mack is also the 2005/2006 state delegate for the California Teachers Association and on the National Education Association (NEA) Resolutions Committee. He lives in Marina.

Tracy Burke (HCOM) is promotions/public service director at radio station KWAV in Monterey. She lives in Marina.



Cynthia Olvera (HCOM) is the records and registration coordinator in CSUMB's Records and Registration office. She's working on an M.A. in counseling education at San José State. As a single parent, her greatest accomplishment is seeing her children further their education as much as she has. Cynthia lives in Marina.

Natalie Zayas (LS), a lecturer at CSUMB, works on Project Logged On for the University of Virginia's Curry School of Education. During the summer, she teaches for the Lyceum in Monterey. Natalie also assisted LIGA (League of Mercy), a group of flying doctors, on a water quality and parasite study in Orocon, Sinaloa, Mexico. She earned an M.S. in education from CSU East Bay and has enrolled in the Ed.D. program at Fielding Research Institute. Natalie lives in Marina.



2000

Daniel Hodge (SBS) is a professor of communications at Azusa Pacific University and a research fellow at Fuller Theological Seminary. He earned an M.A. in intercultural studies and is pursuing a Ph.D. in the philosophy of intercultural studies. Daniel lives in Pasadena.



Ingrid Villeda (LS) is a second-grade teacher in the Los Angeles Unified School District. "I am thankful every day when I think of the 'unconventional' approach to education I received at CSUMB," she says. Ingrid lives in Downey.

Zachary Johnston (MIE) currently works for the Omni San Diego Hotel, but is planning to start a coffee store/deli business. He owned two of these stores in the early 1990s. An athlete, he works with his wife **Tracy Johnston** ('99 LS) in an inner-city school to develop a running program for students. Zachary and Tracy live in San Diego.

1999



Lyn Clapham (VPA) is a marriage and family counselor working at the Fred Finch Youth Center in Oakland. She earned a master's in social and clinical psychology from the New College of California in San Francisco. "My greatest accomplishment," she says, "is being able to provide my family with a safe and stable environment filled with art and creativity." Lyn lives in Castro Valley.

1998

Lisa Bellavia-Filice (TAT) is a park ranger assistant with Sonoma County Regional Parks. She's also involved with the Hope Chapel in Santa Rosa. "I have not forgotten any of my friends from CSUMB, wherever they are," she says. "And I still have freckles." Lisa lives in Santa Rosa with her husband, Robert.



Joshua Evans (ESSP) is a self-employed handyman. He is also an EMT, volunteer firefighter, and involved with the local Democratic club. Joshua lives in Mariposa with his wife and son.

Katie Angarano (LS) is a second-grade teacher in San José. She is currently pursuing an M.A. in education at San José State. "The two years I spent volunteering with AmeriCorps on the East Coast and with the American Red Cross on disaster relief, have been some of my greatest personal accomplishments to date," she says.



1997

Michi Petric (MIE) is the policy and procedures manager for the California Dept. of Managed Health Care. In her personal life, she's involved with several shelters for abused animals and children. Michi lives in Elk Grove with her husband and two children. ❖

TAT alumni reunion is big hit

TAT's third annual reunion was held the week before Christmas in the CSUMB Alumni & Visitors Center. The two previous reunions were held in Los Angeles.

Networking took place, with alums sharing their experiences working in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Monterey and across the country.

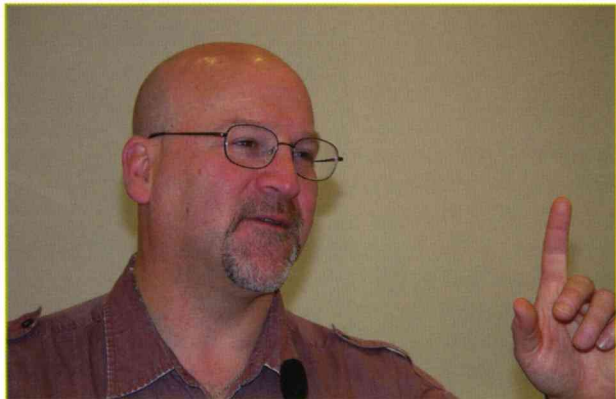
Entertainment was provided by *The Pillowfighters*, featuring Keith Bruecker ('04 TAT), Matt Bollwinkel ('05 MPA), Tony Burciaga ('05 CHHS) and Chas Croslin from the World Theater staff.

"It's our first statewide reunion," says Steven Levinson, TAT faculty member and co-organizer of the event. "It's also the first event of its type to be held in the Alumni & Visitors Center.

"We were surprised about how successful the reunion was. We expected maybe 40 people, but were pleased when over 100 graduates and their guests arrived."

The Alumni Association worked with TAT to sponsor the event, providing publicity and refreshments. The association also provided door prizes.

The creative work of several TAT alums was presented throughout the evening, including films by Evan Baker, Allen Sowell,



Steven Levinson presided over the evening's activities

Victoria Graziani and Carlos Armenta.

"I was thrilled with the turnout," says Stephanie Regevig, alumni relations director. "It's wonderful to see our building being utilized for one of its most important purposes — to bring alumni back to CSUMB and to reunite with their former classmates. I hope that in the future, the Alumni Association can work with other departments on campus to host reunions here as well."

The reunion was also a great event for current TAT students. They had the opportunity to talk with people already working in the field.

"These TAT reunions are what most of us graduates look forward to every year. It gives us an opportunity to network with those who are currently working in the industry," says Michelle Alcorn ('05 TAT).

The *Monterey County Herald*, in its Jan. 8 edition, covered the event with a major story on TAT and its graduates.

For photos of the event, see the back cover of this issue of *Alma Otter*. ♦

Have a Heart for Students Dinner and Auction

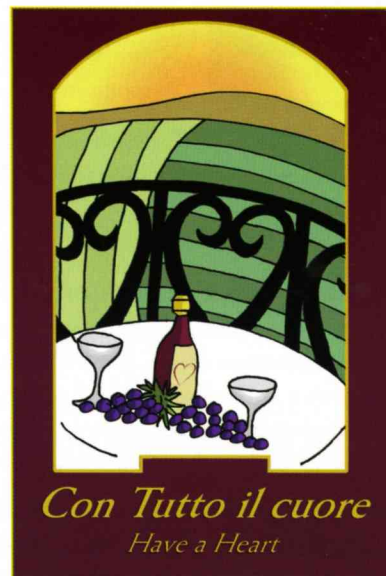
For eight years, CSUMB has raised money for student scholarships through the *Have a Heart for Students Dinner and Auction*. The event has helped five scholarship programs, including the CSUMB Alumni Scholarship Fund. Last year, it raised over \$75,000.

This year's event is themed "A Taste of Italy" and will be held on Friday, Feb. 17 at 6 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom. It will feature entertainment, live and silent auctions, as well as fine Italian cuisine served family-style by CSUMB faculty and staff members.

Tickets for the event are \$75 per person, with all proceeds benefitting scholarships. If the ticket price is a little high for your budget, the event planning committee is still seeking volunteers. Auction items are also needed. All proceeds from items donated or secured by alumni will go directly to the Alumni Scholarship Fund. This year, the Alumni Association board has set a goal of raising \$6,000 from this event.

"It's very important for alumni to get involved and donate items to provide future and current students the same opportunity we had," says Jennifer Golomb, board member who heads up this effort for the association. "The need for scholarships is triple the amount of money we have available to give away, and the cost of getting an education is constantly increasing. Please help by donating items or offering your time for this worthy cause."

If you'd like to get involved, or have an item you or your place of business would like to donate, call 831-582-4723 or send an e-mail to alumni@csumb.edu. ♦



Let's hear from YOU!

Share news about your career, accomplishments and changes in your life with fellow alums through *Alma Otter*. Send information along with your address, phone, degree(s) earned, major, graduation year and a current color photo. To submit information online, go to the Otter Fodder Submission Form under Otter Fodder on the csumbalumni.org website. By mail, send to *Alma Otter*, CSUMB Alumni Association, 100 Campus Center, Bldg. 97, Seaside, CA 93955 or send an e-mail to alumni@csumb.edu. All Otter Fodder submissions are provided by the individuals profiled and printed as submitted.

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Alma Otter is published three times a year by CSUMB University Advancement. Content is based on information available at press time. Submissions are invited and encouraged. Please mail information to *Alma Otter*, CSUMB Alumni Association, 100 Campus Center, Bldg. 97, Seaside, CA 93955, send an e-mail to alumni@csumb.edu, or call 831-582-GRAD (4723).

Alumni Association Financial Report

This is a summary of the alumni association's account balances through Jan. 10, 2006:

Foundation Account	\$63,576.87
Scholarship Fund	9,921.23
Lifetime Membership Endowment	35,000.00
Alumni Vision Scholarship Endowment	21,273.43

For more detailed information, please go to www.csumbalumni.org and click on 'Association Meetings' under Membership.

— James Frazier, CFO

Alumni Day at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am

As a special membership benefit, current members of the CSUMB Alumni Association may enter a drawing for two tickets to the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am on Wednesday, Feb. 8. Ten pairs of tickets will be given away. The day's activities include:

8 a.m.

Practice rounds — all three courses

11 a.m.

3M Celebrity Challenge at Pebble Beach Golf Links; celebrity amateurs play holes 1, 2, 3, 17 and 18

3 p.m.

Payne Stewart Youth Clinic at Pebble Beach Driving Range



To enter, send an e-mail to alumni@csumb.edu with your name and phone number or call the alumni office at 831-582-3595 by Jan. 30. The drawing will be held on Jan. 31 at 9 a.m. All winners will be notified the same day. ♦

Alumni Tailgate Party at A's Game

Join us on Saturday, June 3 for our third Alumni Tailgate Party at McAfee Coliseum in Oakland. Once again, we'll partner with Cal State East Bay's Alumni Association (formerly Cal State Hayward). The fun begins at 11 a.m., when hamburgers, hot



dogs, veggie burgers, chips, cookies and soft drinks will be served. Chat with fellow alums before the game against the Minnesota Twins at 1:05 p.m. Ticket prices are:

- \$22 for current Alumni Association members
- \$25 for guests

The seats will be at field level — a \$30 value! All tickets must be purchased by May 17. You may pay for tickets online at csumbalumni.org by clicking on *Events* under *Store Categories*. For more information, call 831-582-3595 or send an e-mail to alumni@csumb.edu. ♦

TAT's third annual reunion



Alum Ryan Robertson ('03 TAT) and Joe Pestana sign in for the evening's festivities.



Entertainment was provided by The Pillowfighters, featuring, from left, Tony Burciaga ('05 CHHS), Keith Bruecker ('04 TAT), Matt Bollwinkel ('05 MPA) and Chas Croslin from the World Theater staff (not shown).



At center is alum Cory Bruce ('05 TAT), enjoying the reunion with two friends.



Recent and long-time alums shared their post-graduation experiences as they enjoyed refreshments provided by the Alumni Association.



Upcoming alumni events

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| February 8 | Alumni Day at AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am — Pebble Beach |
| February 17 | Have a Heart for Students Dinner and Auction — University Center, CSUMB |
| March 20 | CSU Alumni Networking Mixer for Sacramento area alumni — Sacramento Convention Center |
| June 3 | A's baseball game and tailgate party — McAfee Coliseum, Oakland |



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